



Officers
Chair
Merle Grandberg

President & CEO
Amy Schectman

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jche.org

EXHIBIT 1

Letters of Support

October 21, 2013

Robert Muollo, Jr.
Housing Planner
Planning and Development Department
City of Newton
1000 Commonwealth Ave.
Newton, MA 02459

Dear Mr. Muollo,

My mother, Gertie Epstein has lived at Golda Meir House in Auburndale for the past 12 years. She emigrated from South Africa with my father and for a few years they both enjoyed the warm, affordable community that JCHE staff has created there.

When my father became ill and passed away, my mom was able to continue living independently at Golda due to the moral support and physical support that this unique community provides. The structure itself was built in the early 1980's, I believe, and is in need of renovation. I understand that JCHE is applying for a grant from the City of Newton to begin some much needed upgrades to the building. I cannot think of a better use of affordable housing funds and I want to voice my whole-hearted support for this wonderful organization and the important work they do so well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Epstein', written in a cursive style.

Fiona Epstein
22 Turner Terrace, Newtonville, MA 02460
617 916 2001

October 30, 2013

Robert Muollo, Jr.
Housing Planner
Planning and Development Department
City of Newton
1000 Commonwealth Ave.
Newton, MA 02459

Dear Mr. Muollo,

I am writing in support of JCHE's application for funding from the City of Newton to enable much needed improvements to Golda Meir House, where my mother, Francine Carroll lives.

I live in Newton Lower Falls, and it has been wonderful to have my mother close by. I have great peace of mind knowing that she has the support of a warm and caring professional staff and the friendship of this welcoming and active community. I can enjoy my time with her instead of spending it worrying about her physical and emotional welfare. When she became disabled and wheelchair bound, the staff at Golda was able to provide her with an accessible apartment that minimized the difficulties of life in a wheelchair. She can remain independent, and still enjoy her time in the gardens, library, and the many programs they make available to all residents. I can't imagine what she would have gone through had she been anywhere else.

Please give strong consideration to providing Golda Meir House with the funds they need to ensure that the building which houses this remarkable community is maintained in the most safe, sound, and comfortable condition possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martine Carroll".

Martine Carroll
46 Moulton Street
Newton Lower Falls, MA 02462
617 965 3406

October 30, 2013

Robert Muollo, Jr.
Housing Planner
Planning and Development Department
City of Newton
1000 Commonwealth Ave.
Newton, MA 02459

Dear Mr. Muollo,

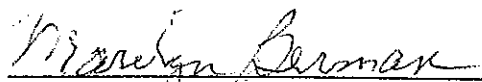
Our new Executive Director, Myra Marshall, has informed us that she is part of a management group at JCHE that is applying for grant funds to make improvements to the Golda Meir House property. We want you to know that we, as Resident Forum representatives, are happy to hear about this possibility and urge you to approve the appropriation of funds.

Some of us have lived here at Golda Meir House for more than 15 years, others have been here only a few years. Many of us raised our families here in Newton, others moved here from afar to be near children and grandchildren. No matter when or why got here, we are all in agreement that this is a wonderful place to live! We are grateful for the efforts made by JCHE and our Golda staff to provide us with affordable housing that is more than just housing. This is a safe and caring community where we are able to enjoy an independent lifestyle and remain active physically, socially, and mentally.

As we age and need more support, the staff is great at helping us to find the resources we need to be able to stay here at home, and as involved in our normal activities as possible. Our building is also aging! It needs just the kind of support your grant funds could help provide to keep it functioning efficiently and safely. Please strongly consider awarding Golda Meir House with the funds for which they are applying.

Sincerely,

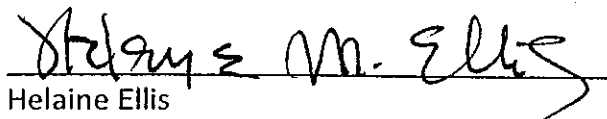
Golda Meir House
Residents Forum



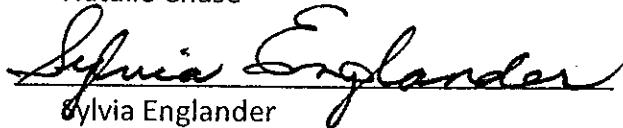
Marilyn Berman



Natalie Chase



Helaine Ellis



Sylvia Englander

Gertrude Epstein
Gertrude Epstein

Albert Feldman
Albert Feldman

Edith Gillette
Edith Gillette

Shirley Goldsmith
Shirley Goldsmith

Mildred Kessler
Mildred Kessler

Barbara Ochs
Barbara Ochs

Betty Rosensweig
Betty Rosensweig

Ethel Freedman's secret to long life?

Her grandson says "Golda Meir House"

In mid February, Ethel Freedman celebrated her 100th birthday. Her family planned a special party and included her six closest friends. Ethel's cherished relationship with five of these women was formed at Golda Meir House. Although Ethel no longer lives at Golda (after 14 years, when she was 97, Ethel moved to a nursing facility), the connection remains strong. So strong in fact that Ethel's grandson Michael and his wife Nia made it a priority to pick up Natalie, Judy, Pat, Gertie and Fay at Golda the morning of the party and escort them 40 minutes west to Ethel's current residence.

The party was wonderful. While enjoying cake, Ethel's family and friends toasted her and roasted her. The adjectives that were used repeatedly to describe her included kind, caring, good humored and wise.

The occasion gave Michael the opportunity to reflect on his grandmother's life. What stands out as most significant is Ethel's experience at Golda Meir House.

"My grandmother moved to Golda when she was in her early 80s. She was still managing well on her own, but when the unit became available, she decided not to pass it up. It was the best decision of her life," said Michael.

"It made me think about the choices people make in their later years," he continued. "If you stay in your own home past the point when you can manage by yourself, you run the risk of becoming very isolated and very lonely. You can go downhill quickly."

Michael's grandmother experience, however, could not be more different. Her life became fuller after moving to JCHE. "My grandmother had a great quality of life. She was engaged in programs that strengthened her mentally and physically."

Michael believes that even though Ethel no longer lives at JCHE, its impact is still strong. "My grandmother had the good fortune to celebrate her 100th birthday because she had so many happy years at Golda. Throughout her life, it's the friendships and community that she has most valued. She found each of these at Golda. In her 80s and 90s, my grandmother flourished."

When asked whether Ethel still thinks about Golda, Michael is quick to answer. "Oh yes. On days when she isn't feeling well, she'll often announce that she is heading back to Golda. It was a time that she remembers fondly."

"My grandmother had the good fortune to celebrate her 100th birthday because she had so many happy years at Golda."

Feature | Local Connections

Newton Mayor Helps Celebrate the Holiday Season at Golda Meir

Mayor Setti Warren and Rep. Kay Khan (D-Newton) stopped by the Golda Meir house earlier this week during an annual holiday celebration.

Posted by [Melanie Graham](#) (Editor), December 19, 2011 at 03:55 pm

[Comment](#) [Recommend](#) <http://newton.patch.com/groups/local-connections/p/newton-mayor-helps-celebrate-the-holiday-season-at-golda-meir-repost-form>



With the holiday season in full swing, some familiar faces stopped by the house earlier this week for the annual holiday party.

Newton Mayor Setti Warren and State Rep. Kay Khan (D-Newton) greeted more than 90 residents at Golda Meir Wednesday night.

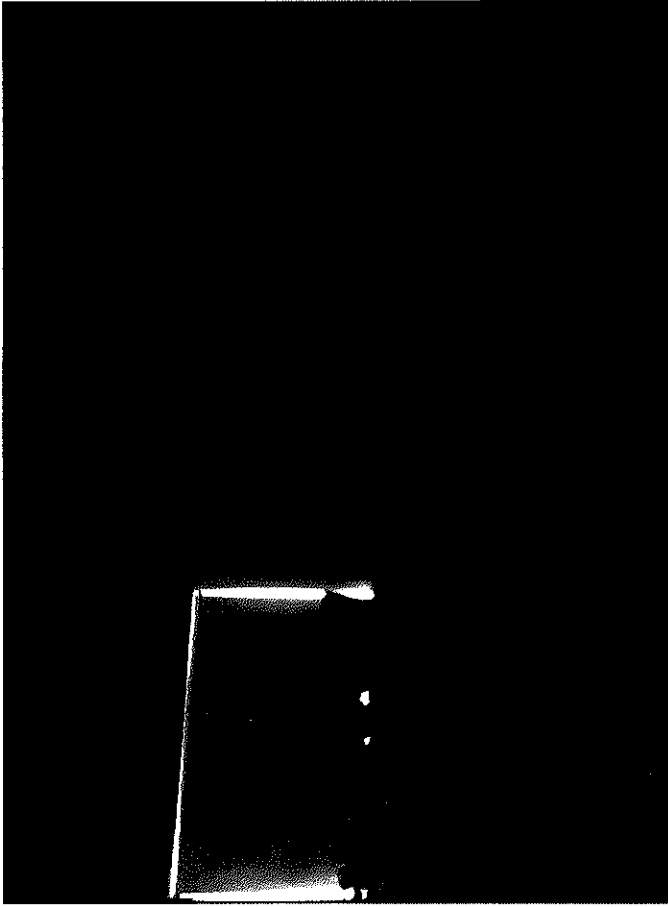
The festive evening featured dinner followed by Klezmer music and dancing.

Golda Meir, located in Auburndale, is a Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly (JCHE) community.

Information provided by Susan Goodman, director of communications for Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly (JCHE).

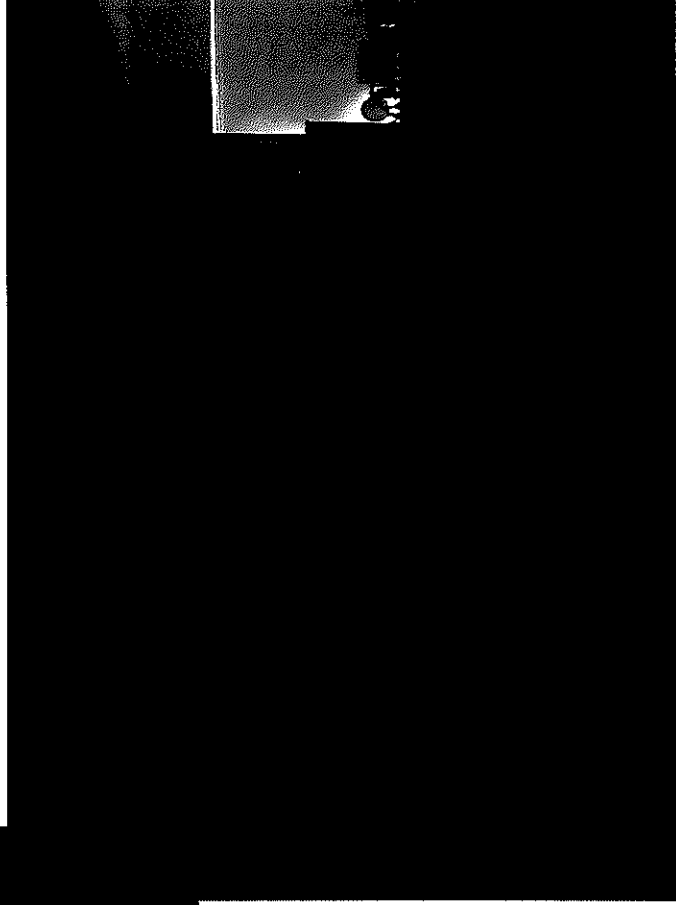
[Comment Recommend http://newton.patch.com/groups/local-connections/p/newton-mayor-helps-celebrate-the-holiday-season-at-golda-meir](http://newton.patch.com/groups/local-connections/p/newton-mayor-helps-celebrate-the-holiday-season-at-golda-meir) - [repost form](#)

EXISTING CONDITIONS

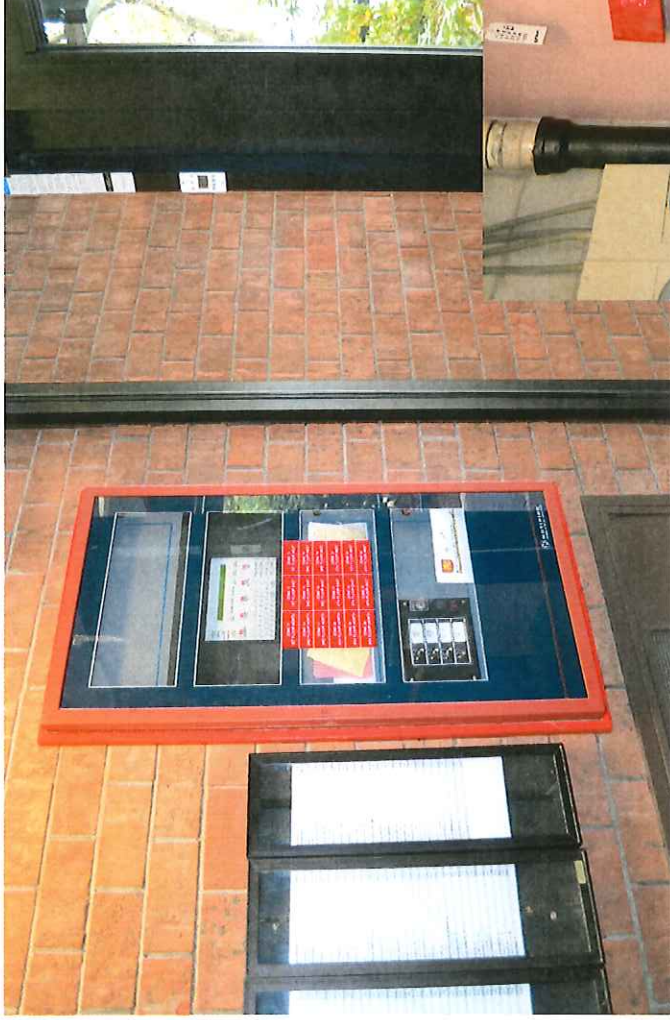


These photos illustrate the low visibility in Golda's apartments without ceiling-mounted lighting.

Accessibility Improvements



EXISTING CONDITIONS



Our fire alarm panel is zone-based and not able to identify specific apartments or locations in case of a fire. This leads to extra work, errors, and additional response time during emergency situations.

The fire pump and controls are out of date and in need of replacement.

Life Safety Improvements



EXISTING CONDITIONS

Energy Efficiency Improvements



All of the boilers in Golda II are inefficient and outdated. This picture shows how the front panel of one of the boilers had to be removed because of heat build up, which triggers the high heat sensor and requires continual service calls for resetting.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Energy Efficiency Improvements



This system is original to the building (circa 1980). The heating feature is broken and beyond repair. The A/C requires frequent repair. Invariably, it breaks down during the hottest periods, leaving the lobby and surrounding area without proper climate control in summer heat.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Energy Efficiency Improvements



The windows in Golda II are leaky, outdated, and inefficient. There is only one way for residents to open them, which is extremely wide, which makes it difficult for JCHE as a property manager to regulate temperature in the building.



Golda Meir House, a JCHE Community

Welcome to Golda Meir House!



Golda Meir House, a JCHE Community

231 residents live in Golda Meir House's 199 apartments.



Golda Meir House, a JCHE Community

... to plant a vegetable garden...



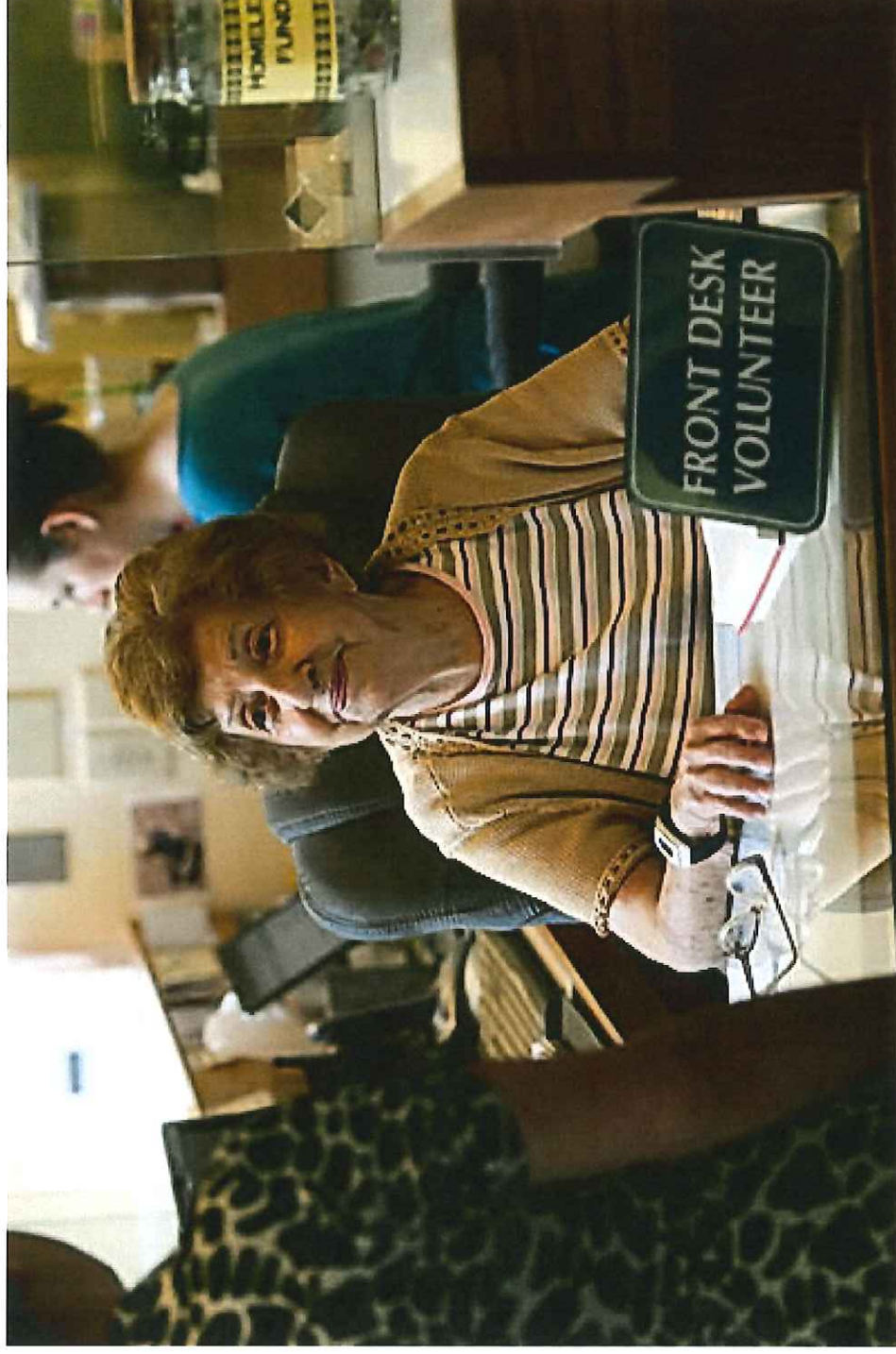
Golda Meir House, a JCHE Community

Hot nutritious meals are prepared onsite.



Golda Meir House, a JCHE Community

Our friendly residents volunteer sit at the front desk near the main entrance to welcome guests...



Golda Meir House, a JCHE Community

The information board located in the main entry
keeps everyone up to date.



Golda Meir House, a JCHE Community

One of our many intergenerational programs used the main lobby recently to form a friendship web.



Golda Meir House, a JCHE Community

Like every JCHE building, Golda Meir House's fitness center has senior-friendly equipment ...



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EXHIBIT 2

Photos of Condition and Surroundings

- a. Golda Meir House, a JCHE Community**
- b. Existing Conditions**

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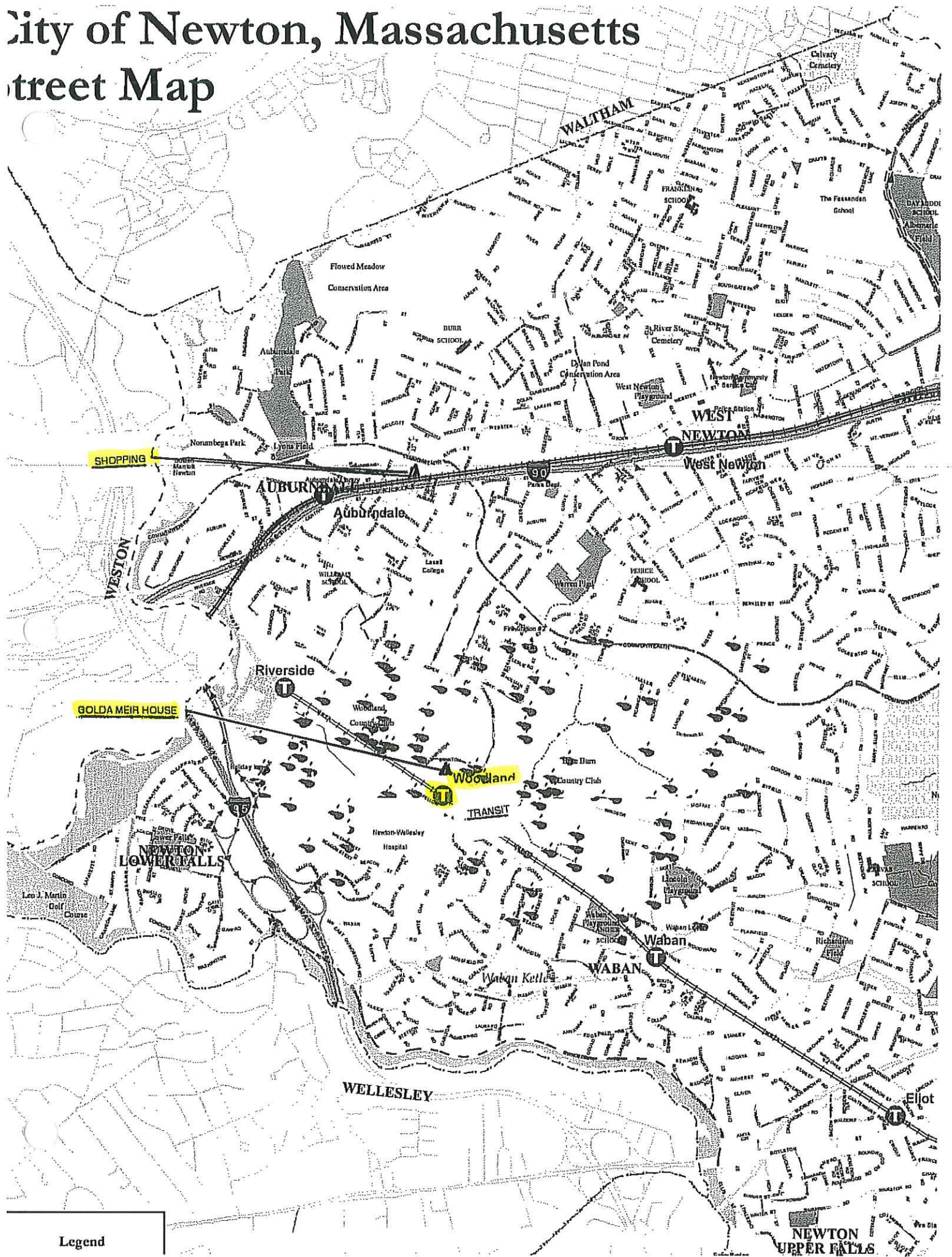
jche.org

EXHIBIT 3

Map to Site in Reference to Roads, Shopping and Transit

City of Newton, Massachusetts

Street Map





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EXHIBIT 4

Timeline

Project Timeline

[illegible]